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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/627,372	07/28/2000	Yue Pan	JP9-1999-0804US1(590.017)	2744

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FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
400 BROAD STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15143

EXAMINER

LY, ANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2003

/v

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/627,372

Applicant(s)

PAN ET AL.

Examiner

Anh Ly

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 06/17/2003 (Page #9) with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. Claims 1-16 are pending in this application.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 7 and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities: In line 20 of claim 7, "translating said query words of user_s native language" replace with – translating said query words of user's native language—and in line 4 of claim 11, "translating said query words of said user_s native language" replace with –translating said query words of said user's native language—. Appropriate corrections are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1-11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,381,598 issued to Williamowski et al. (herein Williamowski) in view of US Patent No. 6,424,983 issued to Schabes et al. (hereinafter Schabes).

With respect to claim 1, Williamowski discloses receiving at a site an original of said query requests from one of said Internet users, said original query request containing said query words of native language of said user (user is using the query to search the native language: col. 2, lines 8-20);

Art Unit: 2172

translating said query words of native language into query words of dedicated language of said selected search engine (an automatic language translation system: col. 6, lines 55-64 and a particular search engine: col. 3, lines 55-61).

constructing a new query request directed to said selected search engine; based on said original query request and said query words of dedicated language (generation of queries: col. 4, lines 53-67, col. 7, lines 11-20; also see col. 3, lines 6-25);

sending said new query request to said selected search engine and receiving a returned query result (returned query result: col. 3, lines 62-67 and col. 4, lines 1-5); and

sending said query result back to said user as a query result in relation to said original query request (query result: col. 3, lines 62-67 and col. 4, lines 1-5).

Williamowski discloses generation of queries including search terms and expression in users' native language from which the users search or retrieve to get the search results in other languages from a plurality of particular search engines and an automatic language translation system. Williamowski does not explicitly indicate selecting a suitable search engine from said plurality of search engines.

However, Schabes discloses information retrieval system, World Wide Web search engines, such as Infoseek, Lycos, Yahoo (col. 7, lines 48-55; also see col. 1, lines 18-25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Williamowski with the teachings of Schabes so as to obtain a plurality of search engines from which the users are able to select (col. 7, lines 48-55). This combination would provide a method for

Art Unit: 2172

generating a query using search terms and expressions in their native language and to specify that the search results may include documents in other language (Williamowski – col. 2, lines 7-35) and translating the query input into another language by an automatic language translation system (Williamowski – col. 6, lines 44-64) and have a plurality of search engines (Schabes – col. 1, lines 18-25) in the information retrieval for native language multi-lingual query service environment.

With respect to claims 2-4, Williamowski discloses search engines from said plurality of designated URL's in said original query request as the selected search engine; on the basis of said URL in said original query request, retrieving a search engine template matching said URL from a search engine template storage; translating said query words of native language into said query words of a dedicated language defined in said retrieved search engine; and searching a dedicated language corresponding to said URI, from history records in said site based on said URI, in the event no search engine template matching said URL is retrieved from said search engine template storage; determining positions of said query word parameters by using linguistic characteristics of parameter values; translating said query words of native language at said positions into said query words of said dedicated language (col. 3, lines 5-67, col. 4, lines 1-5 and col. 5, lines 18-67).

With respect to claims 5-6, Williamowski discloses replacing said query words of native language in said original query request with said query words of said dedicated language so as to form said new query request; and replacing said query words of native language in said original query request with said query words of said dedicated

Art Unit: 2172

language so as to form said new query request (col. 1, lines 48-55, col. 2, lines 8-20, col. 3, lines 62-67, col. 4, lines 1-5, and col. 5, lines 41-50).

With respect to claim 7, Williamowski discloses receiving at a site said query request from said Internet users, said original query request containing an URL requested by said Internet users, said URL having a prefix for designating a site (an interface for query generation to accept a query such as URL, which is URL address on the WWW, to retrieval information from one or more information sources: col. 3, lines 5-16 and col. 2, lines 8-20); removing said prefix from URL (removing button: see fig. 3, col. 4, lines 53-67); sending a request containing said URL to said selected search engine and receiving a web page as response (the search result of an inputted URL is a web page: col.3, lines 50-67); adding a translation prefix before URLs that need said query words and a redirect prefix before other URLs in said web page, so as to form a new web page and adding said redirect prefix before said URL (col. 3, lines 32-67, col. 4, lines 21-45); replacing said query words of user's native language in parameters of said URL with said query words of said dedicated language (constructing query from user's native language: col. 4, lines 53-67 and col. 7, lines 11-20); translating said query words of user's native language in a parameters of said URL into said query words of a dedicated language of said selected search engine; replacing said query words of user's native language in parameters of said URL with said query word of said dedicated language (language translation system: col. 6, lines 55-64 and a particular search engine: col. 3, lines 55-61).

Art Unit: 2172

generating a new web page, embedding said URL and a Script program in said web page, said Script program enabling a client which receives said new web page to perform a step of automatically sending another original query request based on said URL embedded in said web page; sending said new web page (URL address on WWW is representing the location of a web page and HTML and tags are built a web page that also is a script program for web page program language including some statements: col. 3, lines 5-30).

Williamowski discloses generation of queries including search terms and expression in users' native language from which the users search or retrieve to get the search results in other languages from a plurality of particular search engines and an automatic language translation system. Williamowski does not explicitly indicate selecting a suitable search engine from said plurality of search engines.

However, Schabes discloses information retrieval system, World Wide Web search engines, such as Infoseek, Lycos, Yahoo (col. 7, lines 48-55; also see col. 1, lines 18-25).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Williamowski with the teachings of Schabes so as to obtain a plurality of search engines from which the users are able to select (col. 7, lines 48-55). This combination would provide a method for generating a query using search terms and expressions in their native language and to specify that the search results may include documents in other language (Williamowski – col. 2, lines 7-35) and translating the query input into another language by an

Art Unit: 2172

automatic language translation system (Williamowski – col. 6, lines 44-64) and have a plurality of search engines (Schabes – col. 1, lines 18-25) in the information retrieval for native language multi-lingual query service environment.

With respect to claims 8-10, Williamowski discloses selecting said search engine designated by said URL as said selected search engine; and on the basis of said URL, retrieving said search engine template and matching said URI, from a search engine template storage (col. 3, lines 6-67, col. 4, lines 1-5 and col. 5, lines 1-50); and translating said query words from native language into said query words of a dedicated language defined in said retrieved search engine (col. 5, lines 18-40, col. 6, lines 5-67 and col. 7, lines 1-54); searching a dedicated language corresponding to said URL from history records in said site based on said URL, in the event none of said search engine templates match said URL as retrieved from said search engine template storage; determining positions of said query word parameters by using linguistic characteristics of parameter values; translating said query words of said native language at said positions into said query words of said dedicated language (col. 3, lines 6-67, col. 4, lines 1-5 and col. 5, lines 1-50; and col. 5, lines 18-40, col. 6, lines 5-67 and col. 7, lines 1-54).

With respect to claim 11, Williamowski discloses performing following steps in the event said removed prefix is said translation prefix; translating said query word of said user's native language in parameters of said URL into a plurality of said query words of said dedicated language of said selected search (language translation system: col. 6, lines 55-64 and a particular search engine: col. 3, lines 55-61). Adding a redirect prefix

Art Unit: 2172

before each of said plurality of URLs; setting one of said plurality of URLs as a default URL(col. 3, lines 5-25 and col. 5, lines 1-18); generating a new web page, embedding said URL and a Script program in said web page, said Script program enabling a client which receives said new web page to perform a step of automatically sending another original query request based on said URL embedded in said web page; sending said new web page (URL address on WWW is representing the location of a web page and HTML and tags are built a web page that also is a script program for web page program language including some statements: col. 3, lines 5-30).

Claim 16 is essentially the same as claim 1 except that it is directed to a program storage device readable by machine rather than a method ('598 of user is using the query to search the native language: col. 2, lines 8-20; fig. 1, search engines as item 106; generation of queries: col. 4, lines 53-67, col. 7, lines 11-20; also see col. 3, lines 6-25; returned query result: col. 3, lines 62-67 and col. 4, lines 1-5; and query result: col. 3, lines 62-67 and col. 4, lines 1-5; and '369 of col. 17, lines 50-64), and is rejected for the same reason as applied to the claim 1 hereinabove.

7. Claims 12-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,381,598 issued to Williamowski et al. (herein Williamowski) in view of US Patent NO. 6,526,426 issued to Lakritz.

With respect to claim 12, Williamowski discloses a client interface, for receiving query requests sent by clients and returning query results to said clients; a request

Art Unit: 2172

distribution apparatus, for receiving said query requests from said client interface, removing prefixes from requested URLs, and distributing said query requests to different components; query request (see figs 1, 6, 8 and 9, col. 1, lines 35-62 and fig. 6; col. 2, lines 8-35, col. 3, lines 5-67, col. 4, lines 1-5, col. 5, lines 1-67 and col. 6, lines 1-4); a web page retrieving apparatus, for receiving said query request whose prefix is a redirect prefix from said request distribution apparatus, and adding a redirect prefix before said URL(col. 3, lines 32-67, col. 4, lines 21-45); sending said query request to a search engine designated by an URL and obtaining a requested web page; a web page modification apparatus, for forming a new web page by adding translation prefixes before URLs that need query words and adding redirect prefixes before other URLs in the obtained web page, and sending said new web page; a query translation apparatus, for receiving said query request, translating query words of user's native language in the requested URL into and replacing them with query words of a dedicated language of said search engine (an automatic language translation system: col. 6, lines 44-64); and a web page generation apparatus, for generating a new web page, embedding said URL and to perform a step of automatically sending another query request based on said URL embedded in said web page (the search result of an inputted URL is a web page: col.3, lines 50-67; col. 3, lines 32-67, col. 4, lines 21-45; URL address on WWW is representing the location of a web page and HTML and tags are built a web page that also is a script program for web page program language including some statements: col. 3, lines 5-30).

Art Unit: 2172

Williamowski discloses generation of queries including search terms and expression in users' native language from which the users search or retrieve to get the search results in other languages from a plurality of particular search engines and an automatic language translation system. Williamowski does not explicitly indicate a Script program in said web page.

However, Lakritz discloses Script language program from CGI for interlined page or web page (col. 4, lines 39-47 and col. 16, lines 3-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Williamowski with the teachings of Lakritz so as to obtain script language program for web page (col. 4, lines 39-47). This combination would provide a method for generating a query using search terms and expressions in their native language and to specify that the search results may include documents in other language (Williamowski – col. 2, lines 7-35) and translating the query input into another language by an automatic language translation system (Williamowski – col. 6, lines 44-64) and have a script program for web page (Lakritz – col. 4, lines 39-47) in the information retrieval for native language multi-lingual query service environment.

With respect to claims 13 and 15, Williamowski discloses a method for providing native language as discussed in claim 12.

Williamowski does not explicitly indicate, "native language are speech query words."

Art Unit: 2172

However, Lakritz discloses spoken and audible speech language translation (col. 12, lines 56-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Williamowski with the teachings of Lakritz so as to obtain audible speech translation (col. 12, lines 56-67). This combination would provide a method for generating a query using search terms and expressions in their native language and to specify that the search results may include documents in other language (Williamowski – col. 2, lines 7-35) and translating the query input into another language by an automatic language translation system (Williamowski – col. 6, lines 44-64) and have a speech language translation (Lakritz – col. 12, lines 56-67) in the information retrieval for native language multi-lingual query service environment.

8. Claim 14 is are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,381,598 issued to Williamowski et al. (herein Williamowski)

With respect to claim 14, Williamowski discloses a client interface, for receiving said query requests sent by clients and returning said query results to said client; a query translation apparatus, for translating said query words of user's native language in said query requests received by said client interface into and replacing them with said query words of the dedicated language of the database; a query result obtaining apparatus, for sending the translated said query requests to the databases designated

Art Unit: 2172

by said query requests and obtaining said query results (see figs 1, 6, 8 and 9, col. 1, lines 35-62 and fig. 6; col. 2, lines 8-35, col. 3, lines 5-67, col. 4, lines 1-5, col. 5, lines 1-67 and col. 6, lines 1-4).

Williamowski discloses generation of queries including search terms and expression in users' native language from which the users search or retrieve to get the search results in other languages from a plurality of particular search engines; search pattern, and removing query pattern. Williamowski does not clearly disclose a query translation apparatus.

However, Williamowski discloses an automatic language translation system (col. 6, lines 44-64).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the automated translation language system in the system processing the query using computational linguistic techniques and verifies the accuracy the results received with respect to the language and the linguistic structure of the search terms and in a multi-word expression all combinations are verified automatically (Williamowski - col. 2, lines 10-20) in the information retrieval for native language multi-lingual query service environment.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 6,233,544 issued to Alshawi

US Patent No. 6,604,101 issued to Chan et al.

US Patent No. 6,167,369 issued to Schulze.

US Patent No. 5,426,583 issued to Uribe-Echebarria Diaz De Mendibil, Gregorio

US Patent No. 6,360,196 issued to Poznanski et al.

US Patent No. 6,466,901 issued to Loofbourrow et al.

US Patent No. 6,349,276 issued to McCarley

Art Unit: 2172

Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (703) 306-4527 or via E-Mail: anh.ly@USPTO.GOV. The examiner can be reached on Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, see the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached on (703) 305-4393.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231


or faxed to: (703) 746-7238 (after Final Communication)

or: (703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)

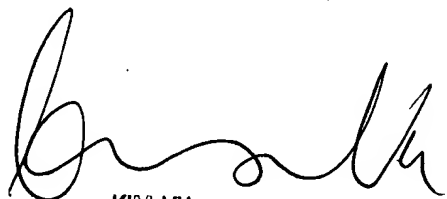
or: (703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, or Customer Service Center, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (receptionist).

Inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

AL 

Mon. 15th, 2003


KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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